



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Hidehisa ASADA et al. : Docket No. 2000-0259A
Serial No. 09/508,435 : Group Art Unit 1644
Filed March 13, 2000 : Examiner P. Nolan

IMMUNOASSAY FOR BNP

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AUG 13 2003

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Alexandria, VA.

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-22 (Cancelled)

Claim 23. (New) A sandwich immunoassay, which is specific for detecting mammalian γ -brain natriuretic peptide (γ -BNP) derivatives, the mammalian γ -BNP derivatives having a carboxy terminus portion including α -BNP and having an amino terminus portion which does not include α -BNP, said sandwich immunoassay comprising:

- (a) an immunoassay solution,
- (b) a first antibody in said immunoassay solution, said first antibody being specifically reacted with the carboxy terminus portion of a mammalian γ -BNP derivative, and
- (c) a second antibody in said immunoassay solution, said second antibody being specifically reacted with the amino terminus portion of said mammalian γ -BNP derivative and which is not reacted with the carboxy terminus portion of said mammalian γ -BNP derivative.